

University Hospital
New Orleans La, May 19th 1864

Dear Mother,

I received your very kind letter of the 3rd, yesterday, and was very glad to hear that you are all well, it is the second letter that I have *recieved* from home in over nine weeks, it seems along[sic] time to go without hearing from home. I am afraid that *your* are worrying yourself about me *to* much. I have got almost entirely well, so that I feel most as well as ever, but I don't think that I can ever stand it to lay out nights in all kinds of weather as I have done before, you want me to try and get a furlough you say. I did think one spell that I could get one but it has all blown ore now. I am getting to well and hearty for a furlough.

I have not heard from Harrison in some time, the last I heard he was well, they have had a pretty hard time of it, there has been but little communication between here and the army for some time, the Rebels has the Red river blockaded this side of them so that no boats could pass, but I heard yesterday that the army had got below with all of the gun boats but two or three which they blew up, the army was at S[?]'s Port the last we hear, they probably will be down this way before long.

Uncle Sam is here in the Hospital, he come yesterday, he is complaining with a pain in his side, and his legs and body are swelled or bloated very bad, he is so that he is about all of the while.

You must excuse me short letter for I don't know of any thing to write that would be interesting to you or any one else. I forgot to tell you that I ~~wa~~ am a nurse now. I don't have but little to do. Give my love to all.

From your Afft. Son,

John F. Brand